

### Remarks

Claims 1-31 are pending for the Examiner's consideration, including amended claims 1 and 15 as well as new claim 31.

The courtesies extended by Examiner Gravini to Applicants' attorney Seth Watkins during an interview on May 23, 2005 are gratefully appreciated.

Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication in the Office Action that claims 13, 15-16, and 27-28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 15 has been rewritten in independent form. Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Office Action stated that the Declaration of the inventors was defective because it did not identify the citizenship of each inventor. In response, Applicants submit herewith newly executed Declarations indicating the citizenship of each inventor.

Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge the claim for foreign priority in the present application under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6-9, 12, 14, 17, and 21-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,176,087 B1 to Snyder *et al.* ("Snyder"). The rejection respectfully is overcome with respect to claims 1-3, 6-9, 12, 14, 17 and traversed with respect to claims 21-26.

Independent claim 1, as amended, is directed to a burner for heat generation in particular in a gas turbine, comprising: inlet openings for a combustion air stream, at least a swirl generator for the combustion air stream, and one or more first fuel supplies with first fuel outlet openings for injection of fuel into the combustion air stream; and at least one resonance tube with one open end and one essentially closed end arranged in or at the burner, the closed end being positioned in a region of a flame front which forms during operation of the burner on a side of the burner, the open end disposed proximate an outlet opening of a supply for a compressible medium; wherein the supply for the compressible medium is configured to deliver the compressible medium to within the resonance tube.

The Office Action states that Snyder discloses "at least one resonance tube 80 or 82 with one open end and one essentially closed end arranged in or at the burner, the closed end being positioned in a region of a flame front which forms during operation of the burner on a side of the burner, the open end disposed proximate an outlet opening of a supply for a compressible medium." Applicants respectfully disagree. Snyder discloses that "[a] secondary fuel conduit 80 extends longitudinally through the centerbody and terminates in a series of branch conduits 82, each leading to a fuel discharge opening 84." (Snyder, Col. 4, lines 62-64). Conduits 80, 82 thus are the fuel supply lines in premixing fuel injector 10 of Snyder, in contrast to the resonance tube as claimed in independent claim 1.

The Examiner Interview Summary Record indicates that "[d]istinguishing the relationship between the supply for the compressible medium and the inside of the resonance tube over Snyder overcomes that prior art rejection." To this end, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the supply for the compressible medium is configured to deliver the compressible medium to within the resonance tube.

Independent claim 21 is directed to a method for the operation of a burner for improved stabilization of a flame, in which the flame is stabilized by an at least one resonance tube with an open end and an essentially closed end, with the closed end being arranged in a region of a flame front forming on a side of the burner, and being pressurized by means of a compressible medium from the open end at least during the occurrence of flame pulsations continuously such that the compressible medium periodically enters and leaves the at least one resonance tube through the open end, wherein the closed end of the resonance tube is heated.

The Examiner Interview Summary Record indicates that "[t]he independently claimed periodic compressible medium entry/leaving resonance tube open end relation is patentably distinguishable over the prior art for the method." Thus, as agreed during the interview, Snyder fails to teach or suggest the method of claim 21.

Claims 4-5 and 10-11 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder. In addition, claims 18-20 and 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,819,319 to Schreter. The rejections respectfully are overcome.

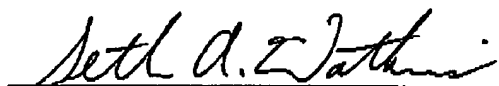
With respect to dependent claims 4-5, 10-11, and 18-20 which depend from claim 1, and dependent claims 29-30 which depend from claim 21, it is submitted that these claims at least are patentable not only because of the patentability of the independent claim from which they depend, but also for the totality of features recited respectively therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner does not agree, then a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues so as to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

A fee for the presentation of claims is believed to be due and a Fee Transmittal Sheet is submitted concurrently herewith. In addition, a Petition for Extension of Time is submitted concurrently herewith. Finally, a Change of Correspondence Address for Application and a Submission of Revocation and Power of Attorney is submitted concurrently herewith. Should any additional fees be required, please charge such fees to Steptoe & Johnson LLP Deposit Account No. 19-4293.

Date: May 27, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures